

FLP-D-11
4 June 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members of the Advisory Committee on
Foreign Language Publications
Chairman of the Procurement Subcommittee
Chairman of the Exploitation Subcommittee
Chairman of the Referencing Subcommittee

SUBJECT : IAC Action on the Fourth Annual Report of the
Committee

I am very pleased to be able to report to the committee the action taken by the IAC at the meetings of 21 and 28 May 1957 with respect to the Fourth Annual Report of the Advisory Committee. It is very gratifying to me as I am sure it must be to you that the IAC has considered the contribution of the committee to be a significant one in the production of intelligence. The pertinent minutes of the above-cited meetings of the IAC are quoted below:

From IAC-M-290, 21 May 1957, Paragraph 3.

"The Chairman stated that this report indicated that the Committee was doing very useful and effective work in this field. After noting the excellent cooperation within the intelligence community with respect to this work, Mr. [REDACTED] discussed with the members various matters relevant to this report, including the possibility of providing additional publications procurement officers (PPO's) in certain areas and the "single-fund" concept. Following their exchange of views, the members noted this report, subject to the drafting and coordination with the military agencies of an appropriate amendment to section III, A, 2, b, clarifying the relationship of the Defense Department to the "single-fund" concept.

"The members also concurred in the Chairman's suggestion that, after further consultation with [REDACTED] regarding projected plans for assignment of PPO's, a copy of this report, as amended, be forwarded to the Secretary of State, together with a letter expressing the importance attached by the IAC to the work of PPO's and the hope that additional PPO support may be available to the intelligence community.

"In this connection, the Chairman invited the members' attention to a book recently published in France which purported to give a substantially accurate French view on the Suez crisis."

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From IAC-M-291, 28 May 1957, Paragraph 1.

"Approved as written. In this connection, the Chairman read to the members the draft of a letter to the Secretary of State relative to the procurement of foreign language publications, prepared pursuant to item 3 of these minutes. All of the members having concurred in this letter, it was passed to Mr. Cumming for transmission to the Secretary of State, and the Secretary was instructed to attach a copy of the letter to the minutes of this meeting. (See letter below)"

"The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

"I should like to commend to your attention the fourth annual report of the Advisory Committee on Foreign Language Publications (copies attached). The work of this committee has been recognized by the Intelligence Advisory Committee as having made a major contribution to the production of intelligence. The committee coordinates the procurement, exploitation and referencing of foreign language publications from all over the world. This coordination is accomplished through the media of three subcommittees each to deal with one of the problems mentioned above.

"It is self-evident that use cannot be made of publications for intelligence purposes unless and until they are expeditiously procured. The Department of State in its publication procurement program has been the major collector of the sorts of materials to which I refer. The program has been operative for sufficient time now to have accumulated experience upon which expansion can be intelligently based. Some of my people have been conferring with yours on the feasibility of such expansion.

"Our studies indicate that augmentation of the procurement staff in Moscow to permit more travel into the hinterlands by skilled officers is of greatest import. A publication procurement officer stationed in Singapore with responsibility for Indonesia, Thailand, Burma, Malaya and Viet Nam would be able to provide coverage of an area where communist infiltration has been very active. Southern Europe regional responsibility might be placed

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on a publication procurement officer based in Rome, Belgrade or Athens. Likewise northern Europe has no express collection mechanism for publications. Latin America is another area not presently covered by the program.

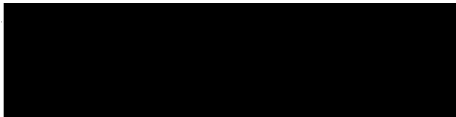
"Because of the great value of foreign publications to the production of intelligence, you may wish to have your responsible officers discuss any shortages in qualified personnel or funds with my people in connection with the suggested augmentation of the publication procurement program or associated travel. I have discussed this matter with the Intelligence Advisory Committee, and the members have concurred in the views expressed in this letter to you.

Faithfully,

Allen W. Dulles
Director"

28 May 1957

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Chairman
Advisory Committee
Foreign Language Publications

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